NUMB. X.

The SPECTATOR.

Non aliter quam qui adverſo vix flumine lembum
Remigiis ſubigit: ſi brachia forte remiſit,
Atque illum in præceps prono rapit alveus amni. Virg.

Monday, March 12. 1711.

IT is with much Satisfaction that I hear this great City inquiring Day by Day after theſe my Papers, and receiving my Morning Lectures with a becoming Serioufneſs and Attention. My Publiſher tells me, that there are already Three Thouſand of them diſtributed every Day: So that if I allow Twenty Readers to every Paper, which I look upon as a modeſt Computation, I may reckon about Threeſcore thouſand Diſciples in *London* and *Weſtminſter*, who I hope will take care to diſtinguiſh themſelves from the thoughtleſs Herd of their ignorant and unattentive Brethren. Since I have raiſed to my ſelf ſo great an Audience, I ſhall ſpare no Pains to make their Inſtruction agreeable, and their Diverſion uſeful. For which Reaſons I ſhall endeavour to enliven Morality with Wit, and to temper Wit with Morality, that my Readers may, if poſſible, both Ways find their Account in the Speculation of the Day. And to the End that their Virtue and Diſcretion may not be ſhort tranſient intermitting Starts of Thought, I have reſolved to refreſh their Memories from Day to Day, till I have recovered them out of that deſperate State of Vice and Folly into which the Age is fallen. The Mind that lies fallow but a ſingle Day, ſprouts up in Follies that are only to be killed by a conſtant and aſſiduous Culture. It was ſaid of *Socrates*, that he brought Philoſophy down from Heaven, to inhabit among Men; and I ſhall be ambitious to have it ſaid of me, that I have brought Philoſophy out of Cloſets and Libraries, Schools and Colleges, to dwell in Clubs and Aſſemblies, at Tea-Tables, and in Coffee-Houſes.

I would therefore in a very particular Manner recommend theſe my Speculations to all well regulated Families, that ſet apart an Hour in every Morning for Tea and Bread and Butter; and would earneſtly adviſe them for their Good to order this Paper to be punctually ſerved up, and to be looked upon as a Part of the Tea Equipage.

Sir *Francis Bacon* obſerves, that a well-written Book compared with its Rivals and Antagoniſts, is like *Moſes*'s Serpent, that immediately ſwallow'd up and devoured thoſe of the *Ægyptians*. I ſhall not be ſo vain as to think, that where the SPECTATOR appears, the other publick Prints will vaniſh; but ſhall leave it to my Readers Conſideration, whether, Is it not much better to be let into the Knowledge of ones-ſelf, than to hear what paſſes in *Muſcovy* or *Poland*; and to amuſe our ſelves with ſuch Writings as tend to the wearing out of Ignorance, Paſſion, and Prejudice, than ſuch as naturally conduce to inflame Hatreds and make Enmities irreconcileable?

In the next Place, I would recommend this Paper to the daily Peruſal of thoſe Gentlemen whom I cannot but conſider as my good Brothers and Allies, I mean the Fraternity of Spectators who live in the World without having any thing to do in it; and either by the Affluence of their Fortunes, or Lazineſs of their Diſpoſitions, have no other Buſineſs with the reſt of Mankind but to look upon them. Under this Claſs of Men are comprehended all contemplative Tradeſmen, titular Phyſitians, Fellows of the Royal Society, Templers that are not given to be contentious, and Stateſmen that are out of Buſineſs. In ſhort, every one that conſiders the World as a Theatre, and deſires to form a right Judgment of thoſe who are the Actors on it.

There is another Set of Men that I muſt likewiſe lay a Claim to, whom I have lately called the Blanks of Society, as being altogether unfurniſh'd with Ideas, till the Buſineſs and Converſation of the Day has ſupplied them. I have often conſidered theſe poor Souls with an Eye of great Commiſeration, when I have heard them asking the firſt Man they have met with, whether there was any News ſtirring? and by that Means gathering together Materials for thinking. Theſe needy Perſons do not know what to talk of, till about twelve a Clock in the Morning; for by that Time they are pretty good Judges of the Weather, know which Way the Wind ſits, and whether the Dutch Mail be come in. As they lie at the Mercy of the firſt Man they meet, and are grave or impertinent all the Day long, according to the Notions which they have imbibed in the Morning, I would earneſtly entreat them not to ſtir out of their Chambers till they have read this Paper, and

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do promiſe them that I will daily inſtil into them ſuch ſound and wholeſome Sentiments, as ſhall have a good Effect on their Converſation for the enſuing twelve Hours.

But there are none to whom this Paper will be more uſeful, than to the female World. I have often thought there has not been ſufficient Pains taken in finding out proper Employments and Diverſions for the Fair ones. Their Amuſements ſeem contrived for them rather as they are Women, than as they are reaſonable Creatures; and are more adapted to the Sex, than to the Species. The Toilet is their great Scene of Buſineſs, and the right adjuſting of their Hair the principal Employment of their Lives. The ſorting of a Suit of Ribbons, is reckon'd a very good Morning's Work; and if they make an Excurſion to a Mercer's or a Toy-ſhop, ſo great a Fatigue makes them unfit for any thing elſe all the Day after. Their more ſerious Occupations are Sowing and Embroidery, and their greateſt Drudgery the Preparation of Jellies and Sweetmeats. This, I ſay, is the State of ordinary Women; tho' I know there are Multitudes of thoſe of a more elevated Life and Converſation, that move in an exalted Sphere of Knowledge and Virtue, that join all the Beauties of the Mind to the Ornaments of Dreſs, and inſpire a kind of Awe and Reſpect, as well as Love, into their Male-Beholders. I hope to encreaſe the Number of theſe by publiſhing this daily Paper, which I ſhall always endeavour to make an innocent if not an improving Entertainment, and by that Means at leaſt divert the Minds of my female Readers from greater Trifles. At the ſame Time, as I would fain give ſome finiſhing Touches to thoſe which are already the moſt beautiful Pieces in humane Nature, I ſhall endeavour to point out all thoſe Imperfections that are the Blemiſhes, as well as thoſe Virtues which are the Embelliſhments, of the Sex. In the mean while I hope theſe my gentle Readers, who have ſo much Time on their Hands, will not grudge throwing away a Quarter of an Hour in a Day on this Paper, ſince they may do it without any Hindrance to Buſineſs.

I know ſeveral of my Friends and Well-wiſhers are in great Pain for me, leſt I ſhould not be able to keep up the Spirit of a Paper which I oblige my ſelf to furniſh every Day: But to make them eaſy in this Particular, I will promiſe them faithfully to give it over as ſoon as I grow dull. This I know will be Matter of great Raillery to the ſmall Wits; who will frequently put me in mind of my Promiſe, deſire me to keep my Word, aſſure me that it is high Time to give over, with many other little Pleaſantries of the like Nature, which Men of a little ſmart Genius cannot forbear throwing out againſt their beſt Friends, when they have ſuch a Handle given them of being witty. But let them remember, that I do hereby enter my Caveat againſt this Piece of Raillery.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

The Number of Silk Gowns that are weekly ſold at Mrs. Rogers's in Exchange-Ally (though not much above a Month ſince ſhe has undertaken it) makes it very evident that her Gowns are very cheap as well as the niceſt Fancies, for ſhe doth not heap a great deal of Rubbiſh together, but chooſes the moſt proper Silks and ſuitable Linings: And for the future will keep ſuch Choice, that all Perſons of Quality and others may be furniſh'd with Variety of Fancies and all Sizes. Note, There will be a Parcel of new Venetian Gowns made up, to be ſeen next Wedneſday.

At Sutton in Surrey, on the Edge of Banſted-Downes, is to be Lett a very commodious Houſe of 5 Rooms on a Floor, with a good Garden well planted with Fruit-Trees, a Stable and Brewhouſe, &c. Inquire in Sutton, at the furtheſt Houſe but one on the Right Hand going to the Downes, or at the Printer's of this Paper.

Plain Spaniſh Snuff,

Right and Fine, in Tin Pots, at 5 s. per Pound. Fine Brazil Snuff at 3 s. an Ounce, 40 s. per Pound; alſo freſh Lisbon Snuff and other Snuffs. To be ſold by Mr. Francis Zouch, in Thames-ſtreet, at the corner of Garlick-Hill, near Queen-hith, by Wholeſale or Retail. N.B. Note, Garlick-Hill is at the bottom of Bow-lane, Cheapſide.

A Sale of Wine by Wholeſale, or in leſs Quantity.

A Parcel of excellent deep bright and ſtrong French Claret, of a curious fine flavour: Alſo a parcel of extraordinary good deep bright and ſtrong Villa Nova Barcelona Red, fit for bottling, by the Hogſhead or half Hogſhead at a moderate Price, or in Bottles or Casks. The Claret at 24 s. per Dozen, the Villa Nova Red at 17 s. 6 d. per Dozen, a Dozen to contain 3 Gallons, Bottles inclusive, no leſs Quantity than 4 Bottles. In a Vault under the Houſe of Mr. Saunderſon's, Merchant; in St. Sweethen's-lane (that End that is next to Canon-ſtreet) and next Door but one to the Riſing-Sun. Attendance will be given every Day till all the Wines are ſold. N.B. They that bring Bottles or Casks ſhall be allow'd for in the Price of the Wine above-mention'd.

At a Cellar next Door to the Woolpack in Buckler's-Bury near Cheapſide, (meeting with Encouragement from good Judges) continues to be ſold fine French Claret, neat and of a delicate flavour, at 24 s. a Dozen Bottles and all; and very good Galicia Wine at 18 s. a Dozen Bottles and all, as good as what is ſold at 2 s. a Bottle. There is alſo a parcel of the beſt Mountain White Wine, very ſtrong, to be ſold at 24 s. a Dozen Bottles and all: No leſs ſold than 3 Bottles. Great Encouragement to any will take the whole. Attendance is given all Day long.

Lately Publiſh'd,

A Dialogue between Timothy and Philatheus, in 3 Volls. Being a full Anſwer to the Rights of the Church, Price 16 s. A Hiſtory of the Heathen gods, by Dr. King, us'd in Weſtminſter School and moſt Schools in England, Written in proper Engliſh for the eaſe of Lads to render into Latin. Price 2 s. The Reverend Mr. Trapp's Prælectiones Poeticæ in Scholi Naturalis Philoſophiæ, price 2 s. 6 d. All Printed for B. Lintott between the 2 Temple Gates in Fleet-ſtreet: Where may be had the late Earl of Lauderdale's Tranſlation of Virgil, price 5 s.

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